

Cyprus Thompson Creek

Post Office Box 62
Clayton, Idaho 83227
Telephone (208) 838-2200

September 30, 1986

RECEIVED

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IDAHO OPERATIONS OFFICE

Mr. Wally Scarburgh
NPDES Permits Coordinator
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
422 West Washington Street
Boise, Idaho 83702

Re: NPDES 1986 DMR-QC Program

Dear Mr. Scarburgh:

Regarding our participation in the 1986 DMR-QC Program, this letter is in response to the not acceptable rating received for the arsenic level.

Corrective action has been taken by the laboratory. As you can see by the enclosed letter, the arsenic standard was old and possibly dilute. New standards have been made and in the future standards will be made up more frequently.

We have been assured that every effort has been made to correct this problem.

Sincerely,



Bert Doughty
Supervisor, Environmental
Affairs

BD:bw
ENV9

CYPRUS

ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEERING LABORATORIES, INC.

1804 N. 33rd St.

Boise, Idaho 83703

Phone 342-5515 Area Code 208

September 25, 1986

Mr. Bert Doughty
CYPRUS THOMPSON CREEK MINE
P. O. Box 62
Clayton, ID 83227

Dear Mr. Doughty:

Enclosed is our explanation regarding the error in the Arsenic unknown for EPA study #WS006.

After investigating the possible reasons for the high result reported, we believe we have isolated the source of error in our procedure. At the time the sample in question was analyzed our standards and QC material were approximately four months old in dilute form. Due to age, and the effects of metallic plating to container walls the standards were probably weakened. This would cause any fresh sample or unknown to have a high bias when compared to these standards.

In the future we will make these standards up on a monthly basis and stagger the dates between the standards and QC materials. This will enable us to prevent this from occurring in the future. I apologize for the inconvenience this has caused Cyprus Thompson Creek Mine. Please rest assured we will make every effort to correct this problem and prevent its occurrence again.

Sincerely,

ANALYTICAL LABORATORIES, INC.

Michael D. Moore

Michael Moore
Laboratory Director

MM/cc

PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT

DATE: 07/09/86

DMR-2A STUDY NUMBER 006

PERMITTEE: ID0025402

CYPRUS THOMPSON CREEK MINING CO

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ANALYTES	V P	REPORT VALUE	TRUE VALUE*	ACCEPTANCE LIMITS	WARNING LIMITS	PERFORMANCE EVALUATION
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TRACE METALS IN MICROGRAMS PER LITER:

ARSENIC		429.0	342	244.- 419.	266.- 397.	NOT ACCEPTABLE
CADMIUM		309.0	307	269.- 348.	279.- 338.	ACCEPTABLE
COPPER		370.0	380	332.- 422.	344.- 411.	ACCEPTABLE
ZINC		378.0	383	333.- 429.	345.- 417.	ACCEPTABLE

MISCELLANEOUS ANALYTES:

TOTAL SUSPENDED SOLIDS (IN MG/L)	31.9	35.6	26.6- 37.5	28.0- 36.1	ACCEPTABLE
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* BASED UPON THEORETICAL CALCULATIONS, OR A REFERENCE VALUE WHEN NECESSARY.